

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form  
2     for both intraoral and oral administration to a patient, said  
3     unit dosage form configured to be placed within the mouth of said  
4     patient, which comprises:

5           (a) as a first portion, at least one discrete outer  
6     layer comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least  
7     one pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
8     administration; and

9           (b) as a second portion located within said first  
10    portion, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one  
11    pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration  
12    and which is releasable and orally ingestible by the patient  
13    after the outer layer has disintegrated or has dissolved  
14    intraorally.

1           2. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2     in the form of a tablet or capsule.

1           3. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 2  
2     wherein the unit dosage form is a tablet and the second portion  
3     of the composition is an inner core or at least one layer of a

4 multi-layer tablet, and the first portion is either an outer  
5 coating applied on the core or is one or more of the outer layers  
6 of a multi-layer tablet.

1 4. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 2  
2 wherein the unit dosage form is a capsule and the second portion  
3 of the composition is an uncoated capsule including the  
4 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration  
5 on which the first portion is applied as an outer layer forming  
6 an outer coating.

1 5. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the outer coating is a film coat that is applied as a  
3 layer to the inner core.

1 6. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the outer coating is a compression coat that is  
3 compressed around the inner core.

1 7. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 5  
2 wherein the film coat comprises the at least one pharmaceutically  
3 active ingredient capable of intraoral administration and at  
4 least one pharmaceutically acceptable coating polymer selected

5 from the group consisting of cellulose, hydroxypropyl  
6 methylcellulose, methyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and  
7 polyethylene glycol, a pharmaceutically acceptable plasticizer, a  
8 pharmaceutically acceptable glidant and a pharmaceutically  
9 acceptable colorant.

1 8. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 6  
2 wherein the compression coat comprises the at least one  
3 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
4 administration and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable  
5 excipient for intraoral administration of the pharmaceutically  
6 active ingredient.

1 9. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 6  
2 wherein the compression coat comprises the at least one  
3 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
4 administration formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable  
5 effervescent agent which generates effervescence when contacted  
6 with salivary fluid.

1 10. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the first portion comprises one or two outer layers each  
3 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one

4 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
5 administration and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable  
6 excipients for intraoral administration of the pharmaceutically  
7 active ingredient capable of intraoral administration.

1 11. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the outer layer of the multi-layer tablet is formulated  
3 with a pharmaceutically acceptable effervescent agent which  
4 generates effervescence when contacted with salivary fluid.

1 12. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 7  
2 wherein the film coat further comprises a pharmaceutically  
3 acceptable flavoring agent.

1 13. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the inner core is an immediate drug release tablet  
3 comprising the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral  
4 administration and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable  
5 excipient for oral administration of the pharmaceutically active  
6 ingredient capable of oral administration.

1 14. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the inner core is in a configuration which provides

3     sustained release of the pharmaceutically active ingredient  
4     capable of oral administration and which further provides an  
5     immediate drug release layer tablet comprising the  
6     pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration  
7     and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for oral  
8     administration of the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable  
9     of oral administration.

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1             15. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2     wherein the second portion is the at least one layer of the  
3     multi-layer tablet comprising the pharmaceutically active  
4     ingredient capable of oral administration and which is an  
5     immediate drug release layer.

1             16. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2     wherein the second portion is the at least one inner layer and  
3     provides sustained release of the pharmaceutically active  
4     ingredient suitable for oral administration over a period of 0.5  
5     to 24 hours.

1             17. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2     wherein a delayed release coating covers the inner core and  
3     comprises the second portion of the composition and then the

4 first portion of the composition is an outer layer over the  
5 delayed release coating to delay release of the pharmaceutically  
6 active ingredient capable of oral administration for a period of  
7 0.5 to 12 hours.

1 18. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 17  
2 wherein the delayed release coating comprises one or more  
3 pharmaceutically acceptable polymer selected from the group  
4 consisting of methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose,  
5 hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl  
6 methyl cellulose acetate succinate, ethyl cellulose, cellulose  
7 acetate phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate,  
8 cellulose acetate trimellitate, carboxymethylcellulose sodium,  
9 acrylic acid polymers and copolymers, polymers or copolymers of  
10 methacrylic acid, methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, methyl  
11 methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate, vinyl acetate, vinyl acetate  
12 phthalate, or an azo compound, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, pectin,  
13 amylose, shellac, zein, and guar gum.

1 19. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 3  
2 wherein the inner core or a layer of the multi-layer tablet core  
3 is chewable and comprises at least one pharmaceutically

4 acceptable excipient suitable for a chewable medication and a  
5 flavoring agent.

1 20. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 4  
2 wherein the film coat comprises the pharmaceutically active  
3 ingredient capable of intraoral administration and at least one  
4 pharmaceutically acceptable coating polymer selected from the  
5 group consisting of cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose,  
6 methyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and polyethylene glycol,  
7 a pharmaceutically acceptable plasticizer, a pharmaceutically  
8 acceptable glidant, a pharmaceutically acceptable colorant, and  
9 optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable flavoring agent.

1 21. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 4  
2 wherein the second portion of the composition is a capsule  
3 containing the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral  
4 administration and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for  
5 sustained release of the pharmaceutically active ingredient  
6 suitable for oral administration to provide a sustained release  
7 effect of the pharmaceutically active ingredient for 0.5 to 24  
8 hours.

1           22. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2 wherein the outer layer disintegrates or dissolves within 10  
3 minutes permitting release of the pharmaceutically active  
4 ingredient capable of intraoral administration, when the  
5 composition is contacted with saliva during intraoral  
6 administration.

1           23. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 22  
2 wherein the second part of the composition containing the  
3 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration  
4 remains intact until the intraoral administration of the  
5 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
6 administration has been completed.

1           24. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 22  
2 wherein the outer layer disintegrates immediately to allow a  
3 rapid intraoral mucosal absorption of the pharmaceutically active  
4 ingredient capable of intraoral administration released from the  
5 outer layer.

1           25. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2 which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable signalling  
3 system located between the first portion and second portion of



4 the composition, within the first portion of the composition or  
5 within the second portion of the composition and that is  
6 detectable by the patient upon substantial release of the  
7 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
8 administration during intraoral administration thereby informing  
9 the patient that it is time to orally ingest the remaining second  
10 part of the composition containing the pharmaceutically active  
11 ingredient capable of oral administration.

1 26. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2 wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of  
3 intraoral administration has a first pass metabolism which is  
4 avoided by intraoral administration.

1 27. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2 wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of  
3 intraoral administration has a rapid onset of desired therapeutic  
4 effect through intraoral absorption.

1 28. The pharmaceutical composition defined in claim 1  
2 wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of  
3 intraoral administration is selected from the group consisting of  
4 analgesics, antihistamines, antidiarrheals, anxiolytics,

5     hypnotics, stimulants, cardiovascular drugs, pulmonary drugs,  
6     anti-hypertensives, anti-emetics, anti-inflammatory drugs, renal  
7     drugs, steroids, drugs for neurological disorders, anti-psychotic  
8     drugs, drugs for treating endocrine disorders, drugs for  
9     promoting immunology, drugs for treating osteoarthritis, drugs  
10    for treating glaucoma, drugs for treating allergic rhinitis,  
11    drugs for treating anemias and other hematological disorders,  
12    drugs for treating infectious diseases, drugs for the treatment  
13    and symptoms of cancer, drugs for insomnia, and antidiabetic  
14    drugs.

1                 29. A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical  
2     composition in unit dosage form as a tablet or capsule for both  
3     intraoral and oral administration to a patient, said  
4     pharmaceutical composition placed within the mouth of said  
5     patient, which comprises:

6                 (a) as a first portion, at least one discrete outer  
7     layer comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least  
8     one pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
9     administration; and

10                (b) as a second portion located within said first  
11     portion, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one  
12     pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration

13 and which is releasable and orally ingestible by the patient  
14 after the at least one outer layer has disintegrated or has  
15 dissolved within the patient's mouth which comprises the steps  
16 of:

17 (i) providing the second portion as an inner tablet  
18 core or as at least one layer of a multi-layer tablet core or as  
19 an uncoated capsule; and

20 (ii) applying the first portion as an outer layer or as  
21 several outer layers forming an outer coating on the first  
22 portion.

1 30. A method of administering a pharmaceutical  
2 composition in unit dosage form as a tablet or capsule for both  
3 intraoral and oral administration to a patient, which comprises:

4 (a) as a first portion, a discrete outer layer  
5 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one  
6 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of intraoral  
7 administration which provides a rapid onset of a desired  
8 therapeutic effect; and

9 (b) as a second portion located within said first  
10 portion, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one  
11 pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of oral administration  
12 and which is releasable and orally ingestible by the patient

13 after the outer layer has disintegrated or has dissolved under  
14 the patient's tongue or elsewhere within the patient's mouth,  
15 which comprises the steps of:

16 (i) placing the pharmaceutical composition under the  
17 tongue, against the inner wall of the cheek or the upper or lower  
18 vestibular layer or elsewhere within the mouth of said patient;

19 (ii) retaining the pharmaceutical composition under the  
20 tongue or against the inner wall of the cheek or the upper or  
21 lower vestibular area or elsewhere within the mouth of the  
22 patient until the first portion of the pharmaceutical composition  
23 containing the pharmaceutically active ingredient capable of  
24 intraoral administration has dissolved or has disintegrated  
25 thereby substantially releasing the pharmaceutically active  
26 ingredient capable of intraoral administration; and

27 (iii) following step (ii) swallowing whole or chewing  
28 and swallowing the second portion of the pharmaceutical  
29 composition.

1 31. The method of administering a pharmaceutical  
2 composition defined in claim 30 wherein the pharmaceutical  
3 composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable  
4 signalling system located between the first portion and second  
5 portion of the composition, within the first portion of the

6 composition or within the second portion of the composition and  
7 which following step (ii) further comprises the step of relating  
8 a signal from the signalling system to indicate to the patient  
9 substantial release of the pharmaceutically active ingredient  
10 capable of intraoral administration during intraoral  
11 administration in step (ii) thereby informing the patient that it  
12 is time to orally ingest the remaining second part of the  
13 composition containing the pharmaceutically active ingredient  
14 capable of oral administration according to step (iii).